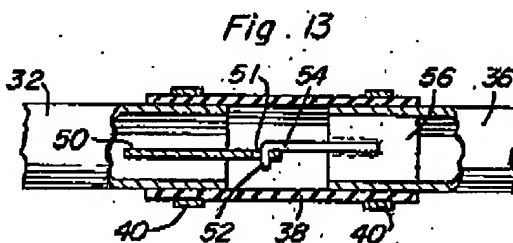


REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 7 and 14 have been amended as discussed with the Examiner on this date. Claims 12, 13 and 14 have been cancelled.

A new Fig. 5 is attached which adds (PRIOR ART) to the legend.

During the telephone conference with the Examiner, the Examiner questioned the drawings with respect to the flex joint 24. In the drawings, for the purposes of clarity, the conventional flex joint is shown without the flexible boot, sleeve or gasket which is clamped onto the outer end of the pipe portion 22 and is clamped onto the inner end of pipeline 14 to permit fluid flow therebetween in conventional fashion. The flexible boot, sleeve or gasket is conventional such as seen in Fig. 13 of U.S. Patent No. 3,750,953 reproduced hereinbelow (see element 38).



A flexible boot, sleeve or gasket 90 is also shown in Fig. 11 of U.S. Patent No. 2,604,359 reproduced hereinbelow.